

CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): An adjusting device for installing a manhole ring onto a manhole, the manhole ring having an annular inner shoulder, the adjusting device comprising:

a center plate;
at least one supporting arm having a first end and a second end, the first end securable to the center plate; and
a securing assembly associated with the center plate for releasably holding the manhole ring;

wherein the securing assembly includes an extension member on each supporting arm and a clamping member, the clamping member movable relative to the center plate, wherein the extension members are contactable with the annular inner shoulder of the manhole ring and the clamping member is positionable beneath the annular inner shoulder of the manhole ring thereby releasably securing the manhole ring between the extension members and the clamping member.

Claim 2 (original): The adjusting device of claim 1 and further comprising
a first supporting arm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the first supporting arm securable to the center plate;
a second supporting arm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the second supporting arm securable to the center plate; and
a third supporting arm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the third supporting arm securable to the center plate;
wherein the first ends of the first supporting arm, the second supporting arm, and the third supporting arm are fixedly secured to the center plate, the angle between the first supporting arm and the second supporting arm being approximately sixty (60°) degrees, the angle between the second supporting arm and the third supporting arm being approximately sixty (60°) degrees, and the angle between the third supporting arm and the first supporting arm being approximately sixty (60°) degrees.

Claim 3 (original): The adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the center plate includes a first center plate and a second center plate, the first supporting arm, the second supporting arm, and the third supporting arm pivotally secured between the first center plate and the second center plate.

Claim 4 (original): The adjusting device of claim 3 and further comprising:
at least one removable fastening mechanism for each supporting arm thereby allowing rotation of the supporting arms relative to the first center plate and the second center plate.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original): The adjusting device of claim 5 and further comprising:
a threaded rod between the clamping member and the center plate.

Claim 7 (original): The adjusting device of claim 5 wherein each extension member has an adjustable height.

Claim 8 (original): The adjusting device of claim 1 and further comprising:
a first leg secured to the second end of the first supporting arm;
a first supporting plate secured to the first leg;
a second leg secured to the second end of the second supporting arm;
a second supporting plate secured to the second leg;
a third leg secured to the second end of the third supporting arm; and
a third supporting plate secured to the third leg.

Claim 9 (original): The adjusting device of claim 1 wherein the second ends of the first supporting arm, the second supporting arm, and the third supporting arm are bent at an angle of approximately ninety (90°) degrees, and further comprising:

- a first supporting plate secured to the second end of the first supporting arm;
- a second supporting plate secured to the second end of the second supporting arm; and
- a third supporting plate secured to the second end of the third supporting arm.

Claims 10 – 20 (previously canceled).